

Claim Amendments:

Please amend claims 1, 5-9, 11-15, without prejudice or disclaimer, as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method for transforming a plant or plant tissue of an *Allium* species *Allium cepa* or *Allium fistulosum* with a DNA of interest from a heterologous gene, the method comprising the steps of: contacting an embryogenic callus material from a plant of an *Allium* species *Allium cepa* or *Allium fistulosum* with a bacterium belonging to the genus *Agrobacterium* which contains a DNA of interest from a heterologous gene and obtaining a transformed *Allium cepa* or *Allium fistulosum* embryogenic callus under selective conditions.
2. (Canceled).
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the bacterium belonging to the genus *Agrobacterium* is *Agrobacterium rhizogenes* or *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the bacterium belonging to the genus *Agrobacterium* contains a Ti plasmid or a Ri plasmid.
5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the heterologous gene is the 5-enolpyruvylshikimate-3-phosphate synthase (EPSPS) gene.
6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the heterologous gene is a modified 5-enolpyruvylshikimate-3-phosphate synthase (EPSPS) gene which, upon expression, encodes an enzyme that confers resistance to the herbicide glyphosate.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the embryogenic callus ~~material~~ is derived from immature embryos or flower buds from an ~~Allium species~~ Allium cepa or Allium fistulosum.

8. (Currently amended) An ~~Allium species~~ plant or plant tissue transformed by the method of claim 1 and progeny thereof under said selective conditions.

9. (Currently amended) A method for transforming a plant or plant tissue of an Allium species Allium cepa or Allium fistulosum with a DNA of interest from a heterologous gene, the method comprising the steps of:

a. culturing immature embryos or flower buds from a plant of an Allium species Allium cepa or Allium fistulosum on an initiation medium for a period of from ~~about~~ 2 to ~~about~~ 6 months until an embryogenic callus ~~material~~ forms on the embryos or flower buds;

b. transferring the embryonic callus ~~material~~ to a coculture medium and contacting the embryogenic callus ~~material~~ with a suspension of *Agrobacterium rhizogenes* or *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* containing a DNA of interest from a heterologous gene; and

c. obtaining a transformed Allium cepa or Allium fistulosum embryogenic callus under selective conditions.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the immature embryos or flower buds are cultured on the initiation medium in the dark and at a temperature of from ~~about~~ 25 °C to ~~about~~ 30 °C.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the heterologous gene is the 5-enolpyruvylshikimate-3-phosphate synthase (EPSPS) gene.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 12 wherein the heterologous gene is a modified 5-enolpyruvylshikimate-3-phosphate synthase (EPSPS) gene which, upon expression, encodes an enzyme that confers resistance to the herbicide glyphosate.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of regenerating the transformed embryonic callus ~~material~~ into transformed *Allium* plants containing the DNA of interest from the heterologous gene.

15. (Currently amended) An *Allium* species plant or plant tissue transformed by the method of claim 9 and progeny thereof under said selective conditions.